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**BOX AF** RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 3763

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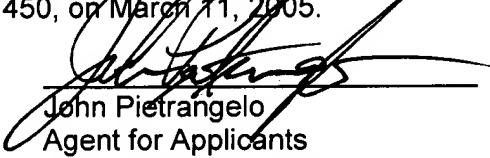
Attorney Ref.: 1242.017

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Wing, et al. Confirmation No.: 1208  
Serial No.: 09/944,190 Group Art Unit: 3763  
Filed: 08/31/2001 Examiner: Desanto, Matthew F.  
Title: OBTURATOR AND CANNULA FOR A TROCAR ADAPTED FOR  
EASE OF INSERTION AND REMOVAL

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 11, 2005.

  
John Pietrangelo  
Agent for Applicants  
Registration No.: 39,331

Date of Signature: March 11, 2005.

To: Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION AFTER FINAL

Dear Sir:

Introductory Comments

This Response to Office Action is being submitted in response to the Office Action made Final January 13, 2005. Since this Response to Office Action is being filed on or before March 13, 2005, that is, within two months of the date of mailing of the Office Action, this Response is being timely filed.

Application No.: 09/944,190  
Amendment dated March 11, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of January 13, 2005

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper. **Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.

## AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)

Applicant(s): WING, et al.

Docket No.

1242.017

Application No. 09/944,190	Filing Date 08/31/2001	Examiner Desanto, Matthew F.	Customer No. 23405	Group Art Unit 3763	Confirmation No. 1208
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Invention: OBTURATOR AND CANNULA FOR A TROCAR ADAPTED FOR EASE OF INSERTION AND REMOVAL

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

O I P E R M U C Y  
M A R 1 5 2005  
P A T E N T & T R A D E M A R K O F F I C E

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

## CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	13 -	54 =	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	1 -	6 =	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00

- No additional fee is required for amendment.
- Please charge Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
- A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-1935
  - Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
  - Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.
- Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.



John Pietrangelo  
Signature

Dated: March 11, 2005

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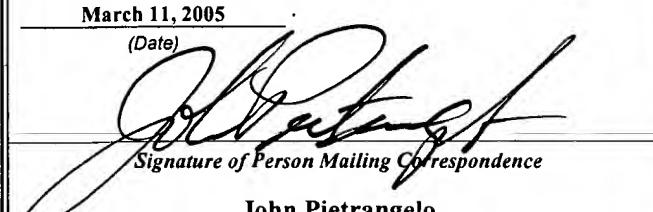
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CC:

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March 11, 2005

(Date)

  
Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

John Pietrangelo

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence